Section 4 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect. After the termination of Section 4 of this Act, a person may continue to be credited with practical experience accrued in accordance with the provisions of § 4–701.1(g) of the Natural Resources Article as enacted by Section 2 of this Act who had begun to complete the requirements of the apprenticeship program under Section 4 of this Act.

Approved May 12, 1998.

CHAPTER 419

(House Bill 1260)

AN ACT concerning

Fisheries Management - Limited Entry to the Commercial Fishery - Apprenticeship - Noncommercial Crabbing License

FOR the purpose of altering certain provisions of law relating to the regulation of fishing and crabbing; altering the fee structure for the issuance of certain licenses; altering the minimum age for obtaining a tidal fish license; eliminating and modifying certain provisions of law relating to certain waiting lists for certain fishing activities; establishing a tidal fish license apprenticeship program and establishing certain criteria and a procedure for obtaining an apprenticeship permit; revising the procedure for establishing the total number of fish authorizations by requiring the Department to set by regulation certain targets for certain authorizations; authorizing the Department to modify these targets by regulation based on certain criteria; altering the process for setting the maximum number of authorizations for the fishing of certain fish; requiring the Department to issue a license to individuals who complete certain apprenticeship programs; altering the criteria under which a license or authorization may be transferred; providing for certain contingencies relating to the renewal of certain licenses; altering certain fees relating to the renewal of certain licenses; providing for the issuance of certain licenses to certain persons of certain ages; establishing certain penalties for the falsification of certain documentation relating to the apprenticeship permit; repealing the termination provision on a certain law relating to limited entry into commercial fishing: repealing certain provisions of law relating to permissible times and gear for catching crabs under certain circumstances; providing for the application of this Act; defining certain terms; establishing a noncommercial crabbing license for certain individuals catching crabs in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries; establishing certain limits for crabbing in the waters of the coastal bays of the Atlantic Ocean; requiring certain individuals catching crabs in a certain manner to obtain a license; providing for the expiration of the license; establishing certain fees for the license under certain circumstances; authorizing certain persons to sell noncommercial crabbing licenses as an agent of the Department; authorizing the agent to retain a certain portion of the fee the agent collects; authorizing individuals to catch crabs without a license under certain circumstances; establishing daily catch limits under certain circumstances;